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DID ANGIE HAVE MICK UNDER HER THUMB? {page 07}

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Cops bust up biggest drug ring in 10 years

- One of the largest drug trade organizations in Hub is dismantled
- Multimillion-dollar cocaine ring sees 15 arrests
- DA: Gang has murdered four, shot dozens {page 02}

MBTA. Crash

▶ More than a dozen people were injured when an MBTA bus crashed into a film production trailer in Dudley Square yesterday. The trailer was on the set of "The Heat," starring Sandra Bullock. {page 03}

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

entertainment

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Take a patriotic road trip

- Meghan McCain and Michael Ian Black challenge partyline notions in their new book {page 09}

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State rep pleads not guilty to assault, kidnapping

State Rep. Carlos Henriquez pleaded not guilty yesterday to punching a female friend and kidnapping her last weekend, as well as witness intimidation and larceny under $250.

Henriquez, 35, a Dorchester representative, didn't speak during the five-minute hearing in Roxbury District Court. He was shocked by the allegations and is looking forward to getting back to work for his community and constituents, his lawyer told reporters after the arraignment.

TED FITZGERALD/POOL PHOTO

▶ Henriquez

Henriquez allegedly picked up the woman, Katherine Gonzalves, a 23-year-old UMass Boston student, at her mother's Arlington home about 2 a.m. Sunday. He said he wanted to talk about their friendship, Gonzalves told police, according to a police report.

Gonzalves told police she and Henriquez previously had an "intimate relationship" about a month ago.

Henriquez drove Gonzalves around in a Zip Car and refused to let her go, allegedly grabbing her wrists when she tried to jump out. She eventually jumped out of the car in the Fenway at about 4:30 a.m. and found a police officer. Police in their report noted scuffs on her legs and bruises on her arms and wrists.

A judge ordered him to stay away from Gonzalves, her mother's home and her home in Somerville. Henriquez was released on the $1,000 cash bail he posted. METRO/MN

In the news

250K

An East Boston man was held on $250,000 bail yesterday after he pleaded not guilty to shooting two Chelsea men. Juan Montalvo, 29, allegedly shot the two 30-year-old men Tuesday night after one of his friends got in a fight with one of the victims. METRO

Today's local tweet

"I'm wondering why more people aren't making references to Speed with this Sandra Bullock trailer bus crash. Keanu believe it? #BOOM"

@MEGANSARAHJ ON YESTERDAY'S CRASH THAT INVOLVED AN MBTA BUS AND A FILM PRODUCTION TRAILER ASSOCIATED WITH BULLOCK'S NEW MOVIE

▶ Boston Design Center

Boston Design Center sold

BOSTON. Vornado Realty Trust has agreed to sell the Boston Design Center and other properties in Boston, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles in a selling spree that totals roughly $228 million.

The company announced the sales last week.

Vornado did not say who was buying the property, which is located in the Seaport District and features 87 showrooms displaying luxury design products. METRO

MBTA Blue Line driver suspended

BOSTON. An MBTA spokesman said a Blue Line operator has been suspended without pay for telling the transit agency he was sick when he was really serving time in jail for beating his wife.

Edward Demase called out sick while serving a three-month stint in Middleton House of Correction last year after he was convicted of assault and battery on his wife.

When Demase was released from prison, he returned to his job at the T, which had received medical documentation to explain his absence and was unaware of the assault and battery charges, T spokesman Joe Pesaturo said. METRO

DA: State must help us bring down more drug rings

- Wiretaps aided breakup of violent Boston drug organization
- DA says he's frustrated by lack of help getting wiretap approval
- Cocaine enterprise brought down in Hub
- Alleged leader of cocaine ring operated from behind bars

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ "This is a serious, organized, sophisticated narcotics distribution network that engages in violence and has been taken out. ... It's a very happy day for the city of Boston," said Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis.

Following the dismantling of what was one of the largest drug trade organizations operating in Boston in recent memory, law enforcement officials called on state lawmakers to change the state's wiretap law to help bring down other drug-dealing gangs.

Juan Guzman, 33, formerly of Hyde Park, is allegedly the leader of the drug trade organization. He was one of 15 people arrested as part of multimillion-dollar cocaine ring operating out of Boston. A yearlong investigation dubbed "Operation Rodeo" resulted in the arrests and searches in Boston, Canton and Milton yesterday.

Guzman, currently serving a two-and-a-half-year sentence for gun and drug convictions last year, allegedly ran the operation while behind bars.

Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis said the Guzman organization, part of the Boylston Street gang, was feuding with another gang with at least 12 shootings and four murders in the last 12 to 16 months.

"The Guzman organization was a street gang that grew into a massive, home-grown criminal syndicate," said Suffolk District Attorney Daniel Conley.

Conley noted that prosecutors appeared in court nearly 10 times to obtain wiretaps on a dozen phones used by Guzman's associates. He said the wiretaps were approved only after prosecutors were able to prove that the organization was so large it could be considered organized crime.

"The wiretaps that proved so valuable in dismantling this ring would be just as powerful if put to use against other gangs, but the current state of the law means that violence, even deadly violence, is not enough to warrant a wiretap," Conley said.

He cited a 2011 state Supreme Judicial Court decision that allowed wiretap evidence in a Brockton murder to be suppressed because the government failed to prove a street gang was an organized criminal enterprise. State wiretapping law is limited, but does allow for taps in investigations of organized criminal enterprises.

"People think: 'Wiretapping, oh, big brother is listening,'" Conley said. "This isn't a bunch of law enforcement people that just tap into someone's phone. ... You have to make out a very strong, credible case."

"[The] arrests amounted to a corporate take down. The managing partners are behind bars and their product is out of circulation."

SUFFOLK DISTRICT ATTORNEY DANIEL CONLEY

40

Shipments of cocaine weighing as much as 40 kilograms were sent to Boston and allegedly distributed by the gang. The drugs were as much as 90 percent pure, authorities said.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

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A crash course at Roxbury film set

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ At least 15 people were taken to area hospitals with injuries.

MBTA bus rams into film production trailer connected to Sandra Bullock flick ◐ Including driver, 15 people injured ◐ Cause unknown

Charles Gordon was on his way home from a medical appointment yesterday morning when the MBTA bus he was riding in slammed into a film production trailer parked along Warren Street in Dudley Square.

"She just hit it real hard," Gordon said as he sat on a curb shortly after the crash. He said he hit his knees on the seat in front of him, and, shortly after answering questions, he was loaded on to a backboard by Boston EMS personnel.

Gordon was one of 15 people taken to various hospitals after the 9:34 a.m. crash.

All of the victims had minor injuries, mostly to the head, neck and back, officials said.

The chaotic scene brought out curious onlookers who watched as medical technicians and paramedics attended to multiple passengers who were strapped to backboards and stretchers.

Nearby, broken and shattered glass was spread around the front of the bus, which was partially crumpled and wedged into the corner of the trailer.

About three hours later, a tow truck finally started to free the damaged bus.

The 33-year-old female bus driver, whose name was not released, was taken to the hospital, and as of press time yesterday, was not cited, according to MBTA spokesman Joe Pesaturo.

The driver had been operating on Route 28 since at least 2010, Pesaturo said.

Her bus traveled by the movie production truck earlier in the morning without incident.

Boston ruined for Bullock?

In 2008, while driving in Gloucester with her then-husband Jesse James, Bullock's SUV was struck by a drunk driver who jumped lanes. The movie star was in the area filming scenes for her romantic comedy, "The Proposal."

Since her hire in May 2007, she has never been in a "preventable accident," Pesaturo said yesterday.

The trailer was in Dudley Square for the filming of "The Heat," a movie starring actress Sandra Bullock.

T Police Superintendent-in-Chief Joseph O'Connor said police are still trying to determine the cause of the accident.

"We're looking at a number of things," he said. "First we are looking if any medical condition may have contributed to the crash. We are also checking mechanical issues to see if any existed on the bus, and looking to see if there was anything else in the roadway that may have contributed to the operator of the bus striking the trailer."

It was unclear how many people in total were on the bus.

O'Connor said it does not appear that anyone in the film crew was injured in the crash.

Police hope more details will come to light after they study surveillance camera footage and talk to witnesses.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

— with additional reporting by Morgan Rousseau

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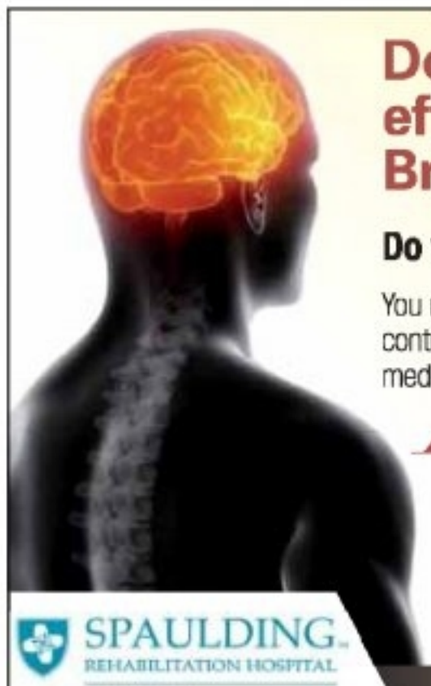

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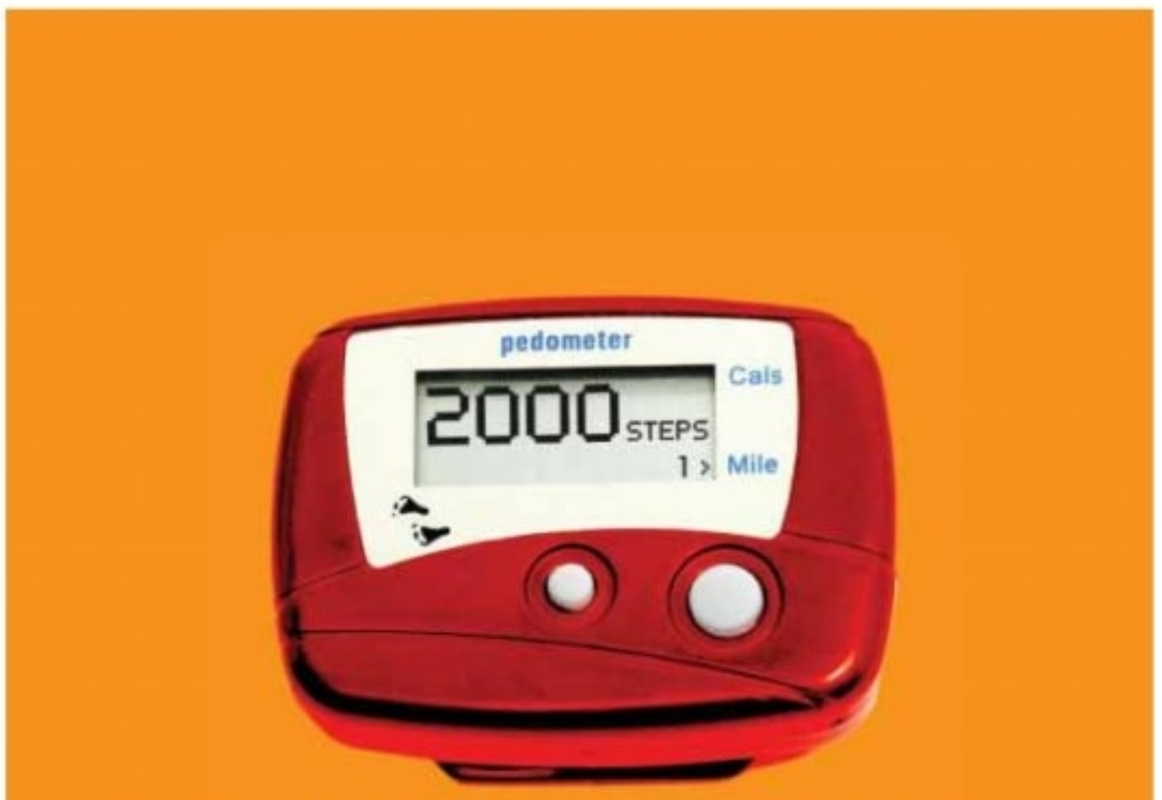

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Top Fed officials set table for more easing

IDAHO. Three top Federal Reserve policymakers yesterday laid the groundwork for a third round of bond purchases, saying the U.S. recovery was weak and unemployment far too high days after another dismal jobs report.

"We are right at that edge, that if economic data keep coming in below our expectations — and our view is we are not making progress on our mandates, or we don't expect to make progress on our mandates — then I think we would need more accommodation," San Francisco Fed President John Williams told reporters after a speech in the resort area of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. **REUTERS**

Samsung wins court case against Apple because it's 'not as cool'

Samsung Electronics defeated Apple in the latest spat in the rivals' patent wars when a British judge ruled Samsung's Galaxy tablets did not infringe the U.S company's designs for the iPad because they were "not as cool."

In yesterday's High Court judgment Judge Colin Birss said that Samsung's Galaxy tablets belonged to the same family as the Apple design when viewed from the front, but the Samsung products were "very thin, almost insubstantial members of that family with unusual details on the back."

"They do not have the same understated and extreme simplicity which is possessed by the Apple design. They are not as cool," he said. "The overall impression produced is different."

The victory for Samsung comes days after a U.S. appeals court lifted a freeze on sales of its Galaxy Nexus smartphones, although it upheld a lower court's decision to temporarily halt sales the Galaxy. **REUTERS**

Internet doomsday fails to materialize

GETTY IMAGES

▶ U.S. prosecutors have charged seven people with orchestrating the worldwide Internet fraud. Six were arrested in Estonia, while the seventh, who was living in Russia, is still at large.

Fears that a computer virus might cut Internet access around the world appeared to be overblown yesterday after U.S. authorities removed a safety net that had protected infected machines for months.

Shortly after midnight EDT, the authorities cut off computer servers in New York City that had been put in place to direct traffic for infected computers, which would have been unable to access the Internet without their help.

Some blogs and news reports had warned that the shutdown of the servers could trigger a potential "blackout" and described the malicious software as the "Internet Doomsday" virus. But that did not happen. "All quiet," said Barry Greene, a security consultant who volunteers with the DNS Changer Working Group, an ad-hoc group of experts who teamed up to help fight the virus and educate the public about how to eradicate it.

As of yesterday afternoon New York time, providers had seen no increase in call volume. "The outreach campaign has reached everyone humanly possible," Greene said.

Victims of the virus originally required assistance because the virus had changed settings on their PCs, diverting Internet traffic through rogue servers that showed them advertisements. Police shut them down in November.

Infected machines would have been unable to access the Web unless they were repaired, so authorities put the backup system in place as a stop gap measure. **REUTERS**

Jobs bought 'Internet steam train' from France

PARIS. The man who turned Apple into a Web-connected empire of consumer gadgets drew some of his inspiration from a tabletop box that wired French households to networked information way before the arrival of mass Internet, a French telecoms engineer says.

Long before hundreds of millions of homes worldwide began connecting to the Internet in the 1990s, France's Minitel box, the steam train of the online world, attracted the attention of Apple Inc.'s now deceased founder, Steve Jobs.

The clunky Minitel, pulled out of service at the end of June, was used by some 25 million people in France at the time for services ranging from checking the weather to making travel reservations and posting small ads.

REUTERS

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THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

Jolie had no love for Jagger's moves

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Before she was a super mom, Jolie freaked out Jagger.

You can add **Mick Jagger** to the long list of people bewitched by **Angelina Jolie**. In a new biography, "Mick: The Wild Life and Mad Genius of Jagger," **Christopher Anderson** claims the Rolling Stones frontman became obsessed with Jolie after she played a sullen stripper in the video for their 1997 single "Anybody Seen My Baby."

Although Jolie was married to **Jonny Lee Miller** at the time, Anderson reports that Jagger left her countless voicemails during which he was "virtually sobbing" and pursued her for several years. Jolie didn't return his calls, but her mother "loved Mick for Angie and felt that he could teach her about fame," according to a family friend.

So why would Jagger waste his time on the one half-naked 22-year-old actress who wouldn't call him back? "She scares me a little. I like that," he's quoted as admitting in the book.

This, mind you, from the man who spent decades waking up on hotel floors next to the hungover ghost of **Keith Richards.** Angelina, we are, as always, impressed.

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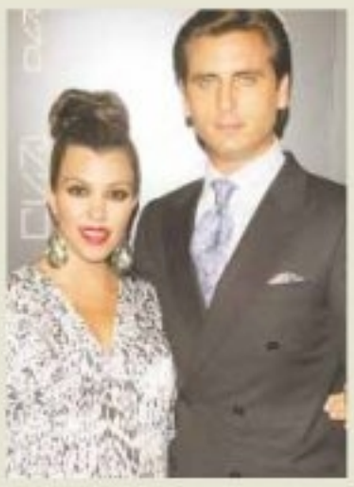


Kourtney Kardashian is doing her part to keep the family business alive. On Sunday, the reality star welcomed a baby girl, **Penelope**, her second child with boyfriend **Scott Disick**.

Are we seriously cynical about newborns over here? We are, and we blame Kim: "I am so excited to be an aunt again and can't wait to spoil little Penelope," she posted ominously on her blog.

Holmes-Cruise show may be over

After two weeks of drama, **Katie Holmes** and **Tom Cruise** have put a quick and tidy end to their divorce circus. The couple reached a settlement yesterday, which will avoid a messy court hearing later this month.

While there's no word on the terms of the agreement, Holmes is rumored to get custody of daughter **Suri**, while Cruise will have generous visitation rights.

As for the statements, we're going to hand it to Team Cruise's lawyers for giving up the least amount of information in the blandest way possible: "The Tom Cruise-Katie Holmes case has been settled with a signed agreement. Tom is really pleased we got there."

You've been warned

We need to say this one quickly, Band-Aid style: **Nadya "Octomom" Suleman** is in the studio recording a dance track on which she both sings and raps, according to TMZ.

The song, "Get on the Dance Floor," is set to be released Aug. 1, and is being produced by **DJ Mr. Mig** and **Mike Rizzo** — meaning you might actually hear it (they've done work for the likes of **Britney Spears** and **Beyonce**).

We never thought we'd say this, but we wish Suleman would focus on her porn career.

Talking points

It's a girl for Sienna Miller

Sienna Miller gave birth to a baby girl in London over the weekend, according to Us Weekly. This is the first child for Miller and fiance **Tom Sturridge**. The notoriously press-shy Miller has said very little about her pregnancy, but in April she did open up to British Vogue: "Even though I'm under strict instructions not to say anything,

▶ Miller

as it would completely defeat the point of everything I've tried to achieve in the last eight years, I'm feeling fine. It's all progressing nicely and it's very exciting," she said.

Salma Hayek censoring 'Savages'

Salma Hayek admits that her 4-year-old daughter, **Valentina**, won't be seeing her latest film, **Oliver Stone**'s "Savages," in which Hayek plays the head of a bloody Mexican drug cartel. "She's not going to watch this movie," she insists during a visit to "The Tonight Show" to promote the film. "Actually, this was the only movie that she was not on the set. I usually bring her on the set and she always likes to sit right next to the monitor and

▶ Hayek

she bosses everyone around. I know Oliver Stone would have not let her come in and say, 'Excuse me, Oliver, let me take over the set.' No."

Did Sheen christen Winona Ryder?

Before she was **Winona Ryder**, Winona Horowitz was an aspiring actress in search of a sexier stage name — until **Charlie Sheen** came along. "We were listening to The Doors, to 'Riders on the Storm,'" Sheen said during an appearance on "CenterStage." "And I said, 'You know, I'm thinking Winona Ryder sounds cool,' and she was like, 'Yeah!'" Ryder, for her part, doesn't confirm to the story. "[She] never, never gave me credit to this day," Sheen says.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

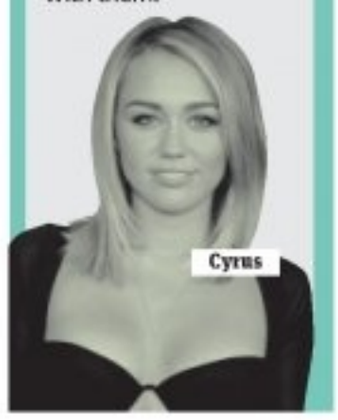
@ActuallyNPH (Neil Patrick Harris): Taking the train from Paris to London. Am I wrong, or is travel by train the greatest, calmest, classiest thing ever?

@ebertchicago (Roger Ebert): As an experienced ex-drunk, I want to know: How do the guys on "Mad Men" drink like that all day and get home (or anywhere) in one piece?

@SarahKSilverman: Ironically, "note to self" is only ever said for other people's benefit

@AlbertBrooks: Dreamt I was sick and had to go before a death panel. They said I should die but they really liked my movies.

@MileyCyrus: Happiness is not the absence of problems but the ability to deal with them.



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Will watch for little dogs

1 **Aretha Franklin** got her glow on at the Essence Music Festival in New Orleans on Sunday.

2 **Angela Raiola** was at the premiere of her "Mob Wives" spin-off, "Big Ang," Sunday night in New York. And if she thought she could bribe us with an adorable little Pomeranian, well, she was right.

3 **Rihanna** went all out at the Barclaycard Wireless Festival in London on Sunday.

4 **Paris Hilton**, you have competition: "Real Housewife" **Teresa Giudice** was DJing — or some unholy derivative of it — at the Mount Airy Casino Resort on Saturday.

5 **Liam Hemsworth** was spotted looking super smooth in New York while shooting his latest, "Empire State."

1: ERIKA GOLDRING/GETTY IMAGES
2: ROBIN MARCHANT/FILMMAGIC
3: DAVE J HOGAN/GETTY IMAGES
5: ABY BAKER/GETTY IMAGES

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Patriotic Punchlines

Election season got you down? Two summer books take their stabs at the state of the union Laugh until, or because, it hurts

Any 10th-grader worth his or her salt has had to write the history essay: What would the Founding Fathers think of modern America? Going by Kevin Bleyer's "Me, The People" (a comedic redrafting of the Constitution) and "America, You Sexy Bitch" (a political travelogue from comedian Michael Ian Black and pundit Meghan McCain), the answer might be that the Founding Fathers would be too drunk to notice how friendly our strippers are.

Red, white and bitch

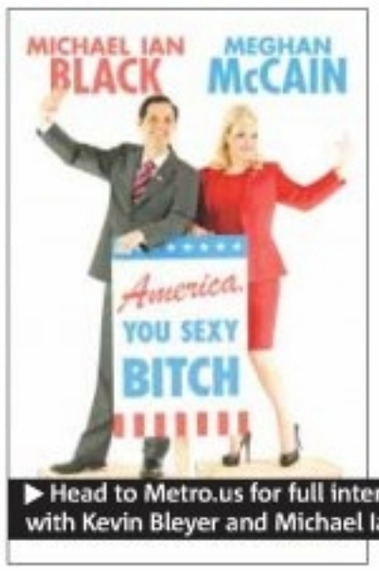
McCain and Black embark on bipartisan Thelma and Louising of the American landscape in "America, You Sexy Bitch," zipping through Red and Blue to find the Purple. The result is a roadbook split between two voices: Black, a Connecticut liberal and father of two, whose punditry background centers mostly on "talking about Cabbage Patch Kids on VH1"; and McCain, a conservative wild-child, daughter of John, downer of colorful shots. The book tracks their journey throughout the country as they goad one another into flexing out of their ideological comfort zones for humorous, and often tense, self-examination. They meet an American patchwork, from cowboys to strippers, anarchists to Elvis impersonators,

"The only thing that would make [the Constitution] hotter is if James Madison were a vampire."
KEVIN BLEYER

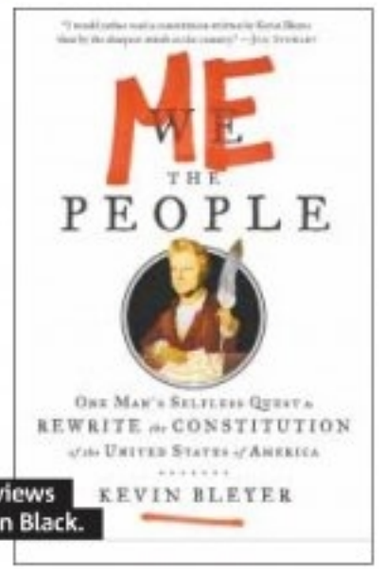
who discuss "health care and racial relations and military, the second amendment and stereotypes of Democrats and Republicans." Readers will enjoy the vividly colored trip whether they are fans of McCain, Black, or "even if they hate us both," laughs Black.

The Constitution gets an acid bath

Kevin Bleyer's background as a writer for Jon Stewart, Bill Maher, Dennis Miller and, oh yeah, President Obama might overqualify him to rewrite the Constitution. Nevertheless, he does just that in "Me, The People," where the original authors at the First Constitutional Convention are described as an "exhausted, drunken, broke, partisan, squabbling, bloviating, backstabbing, grandstanding, restless [and] cow-tipping" bunch whose most common shared trait was their routine habit of "drinking beer for breakfast." Ladies and gentlemen, the constitution was written by America's drunk uncles.



▶ Head to Metro.us for full interviews with Kevin Bleyer and Michael Ian Black.



In "Me, The People," Kevin Bleyer steps in to take the reins.

Bleyer calls the Constitution a "hot document" — "The only thing that would make it hotter is if James Madison were a vampire" — and refers to his own book as "Fifty Shades of Red, White and Blue."

As he vets each element of the original Constitution, Bleyer examines what should stay (not much), what should go (a lot) and what should be introduced ("CSI" fans are disqualified from jury duty). Surprisingly informative, "Me, The People" is as enlightening as it is gut-bustingly funny.

JIM FENNER
jim.fenner@metro.us

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Prepare your child for school

▶ Familiarizing your child with his or her school can create a level of comfort once the big day arrives.

COMSTOCK

Ease your little one's first-day jitters Familiarity can abate fear

The first day at school isn't what it used to be. These days, by the time most children start formal education they're relatively comfortable with separation from the home and parent, says Jayne Singer, Ph.D., the clinical director of the Child and Parent Program at Boston Children's Hospital.

"Children who have had high-quality day care or preschool make a better transition to school both emotionally and socially," she says.

Still, even leaving a private play-based preschool to go to a public school is a big transition, and there's a lot parents can do to ease a child's stress with any environmental change. When it comes to easing anxiety, familiarity breeds comfort.

"Give the child guidance; show them pictures of their new classroom or school. A lot of schools have the good sense to hold open houses or have a welcome visit. Visit the school, visit the playground. Show them the classroom and where they will play. The sense of familiarity will ease anxiety."

"Also," adds Dr Singer, "younger children do well with concrete reminders about the passage of time. Get a calendar and mark off the days until school starts. Turn it into a craft project. Say, make a flower and add a petal for each day."

One thing parents should watch for is transferring their anxiety. "Parents shouldn't assume a child is anxious or feels separation. Don't ask, 'Are you scared?' Let the child bring it up and if they do, say, 'Of course you are. I feel nervous when I do something new.'"

LINDA CLARKE
letters@metro.us

Prep for parents

"Have a conversation with personnel at the school so you are prepared for the environment," says Dr. Singer.

▶ "The more parents know about the school, the more authentic they are in offering guidance to the child. Tell your child they will have a chance to play, they will have a place to draw and paint. Give them concrete examples of what is there. Give them a vision of the classroom as a kind and supportive place."

Back-to-school

COMSTOCK

Your checklist for the countdown

Follow these steps from child expert Dr. Michele Borba so that both you and your child are ready for the first day.

The month before:

▶ Don't hype up school too much. "It may not be wonderful to them, and when they walk in there your credibility will go down," Dr. Borba says.

▶ Have your child go in knowing a familiar name or face. "Mention [his or her] teacher's name," Dr. Borba says. "If you can find one kid in the neighborhood that may be in that child's class, that would make a wonderful difference."

▶ Do a social skill tune-up. "It takes about three weeks of repetition for any new behavior, so it could be nothing more than 'here's how we say hello,' or 'here's how we start a new conversation.'"

The week before:

▶ Adjust your child's sleep schedule. "Usually in school you need to start winding the clock back, because [your child is] usually used to staying up a little bit later and that early morning could be tough on a little one."

▶ Familiarize your child with the school. "You may not be able to get into the classroom, but you'll be able to show your kid, 'here's how Mommy will drop you off,' and 'there's the big number on your door.'"

▶ Practice the goodbyes. "Come up with a ritual — any simple ritual, like an Eskimo kiss — but don't make it into a big thing."

The day before:

▶ Lay out your child's clothes. "It's fun to know what [he or she is] wearing and it will make the morning go smoother."

▶ Buy an alarm clock. "Little ones can set them by themselves. There are really cute ones at Target or Wal-Mart."

▶ Ensure that your child won't encounter problems. "If there's anything that's a concern, like a school bus number or classroom number, you can put it with a marking pen on the tongue of a shoe so [your child will] always have it."

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Letters

letters@metro.us

You'll miss minimum wage when robots arrive

I am also a Democrat, but I do not co-sign every agenda we push. I agree that the current minimum wage isn't enough to pay the bills, which is why some have two and three jobs. When I think of this great land of opportunity, I realize that there are people that do not want to further their education or take advantage of an opportunity that would improve their financial status. With all due compassion, I'm leaning toward it being uncomfortable for them, whether that's low self-esteem, having to move if able to, or maybe just being plain lazy. I agree that minimum wage should be adjusted every so often, but not to cater to those that don't want to make the effort to do better when they have the ability to do so. As eloquent as your plea may be for Obama not touching the issue of minimum wage, I can't imagine that you'd pay someone more for flipping a burger or anything just as simple when all that is needed is a basic education. Please keep in mind that some of these minimum wage positions are becoming automated. So while you push for higher minimum wages, business owners are looking for ways to cut costs. We already have a robotic vacuum cleaner. You think the lawn mower isn't far behind? You don't want automation to be less expensive than minimum wage, trust me. Please be gentle in your push, sir.
DANIEL GREEN, VIA E-MAIL

US Constitution governs government

I appreciate Mr. Porrell's compliment on reading my letters in Metro and his concurrence on the health care issue. However, I am not anti-government. I am anti-corruption. It is commendable that you received a degree in history; I, too, love history, especially that learned after my formal education. For instance: The US Constitution was written to govern the government, not the people; America is a republic, not a democracy; laws are made by Congress — not the Supreme Court or the president, just to name a few. These issues were never raised in my high school or college courses. **FRANK ST. GEORGE, VIA E-MAIL**

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

An analogy has all the answers for you

A familiar refrain in this election season has been: "Why hasn't President Obama fixed everything?" Here's a simple answer: If your house (i.e., the economy) has been burnt down by an arsonist (i.e., Wall Street and George W. Bush), you can't expect a contractor (i.e., President Obama) to rebuild it overnight, especially when you're not giving the contractor enough tools and time (i.e., stimulus funds) to do the job — and definitely not if you allow pyromaniacs armed with flame-throwers (i.e., the Republicans) onto the property. Simple enough, eh? **JOSEPH CONNELL. VIA E-MAIL**

Someone wealthy should lead

The USA is the richest country in the world. Who better then someone wealthy do you want to run this giant enconomic engine?
MIKE SEFA, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Be extremely selective of the friends with whom you choose to spend the day if you're planning some type of specific, enjoyable activity. Make sure all are compatible.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Go out of your way to be tactful in any involvements you have with those who are in authoritative positions. Remember, they'll have the upper hand at all times, not you.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Discussing potential, partially developed plans with others could add confusion to your thinking. Wait until you have everything worked out before talking about your intentions.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** It's never the right day to poke your nose into a situation that is none of your business. Your curiosity could get you drawn into the complicated affairs of another. M.Y.O.B.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Be open-minded to the views of your associates, but, by the same token, don't think everything they say consists of the wisest thoughts. Use your own judgment

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Unless you're an expert on the subject, guard against a tendency to criticize the efforts of others.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Think twice before getting involved in a project that is being managed by another. Should things go awry, you could be held accountable.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** If you're smart, you'll keep an issue about which you and your mate are diametrically opposed under wraps. You're not going to resolve anything, but you could make it worse.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Attitude is everything where your productivity is concerned. If you look at things as being difficult and distasteful, you can expect the job to severely cramp your style.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Spending lots of money is no assurance that you'll be guaranteed a good time. In fact, certain expensive activities can turn out to be bummers.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Don't start anything that you know you can't or won't finish, because chances are it will be left undone for quite some time. If that happens, it will be a thorn in your side until you complete it.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Subdue inclinations to judge people or events negatively before you have all the facts. If you persist in thinking dark thoughts, you will make sure the day lives up to these expectations. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Across
1 Kid around
5 Coconut sources
10 Minority group
14 TV genie portrayer
16 Ersatz butter
17 Bundled off
18 Iowa commune
19 Pale green mineral
20 After Aries
22 Beeped
24 Built for speed
25 Popular cruise stop
26 Prefix for "dynamic"
28 Looks mischievous
32 Pack it in
35 Stein filler
37 More warm-hearted
38 Best medicine
39 Full of suds
41 Realty offering
42 Type of printer
45 Roofer's gunk
46 Olin or Horne
47 Check endorser
48 Salad choice
50 Pack animals
54 Dismantle a tent
58 Buys, so to speak (2 wds.)
61 Longitude unit
62 Jai --
63 Dancing castle
65 Hayloft locale
66 Broadcast
67 Ms. Zellweger
68 Comic-strip dog
69 Wood-finishing oil
70 Banana oil, e.g.
71 Misfortunes

Down
1 Quips
2 Without a flaw
3 Sports locale
4 Ask urgently
5 Edible seeds
6 PIN prompter
7 Tibet's capital
8 Waiters' offerings
9 Shuts with a bang
10 Brief stay
11 Flair
12 Grant territory
13 Nailed obliquely
21 Small guitar
25 -- contendere
27 "Kon-Tiki" craft
29 Busy loafing
30 Diner sign
31 Tijuana Ms.
32 Ear cleaner (hyph.)
33 Bone below the elbow
34 Gross
36 Pig out
37 Actress -- Sedgwick
40 Gets tangled
43 Congealing
44 Electric swimmers
46 Robin Hood's weapon
49 Billiard stick
51 Really excited
52 Customs
53 -- we all!
55 Madrid museum
56 Uncanny
57 DNA components
58 Like cheetahs
59 Felipe or Matty
60 Grassy area
61 Hoofed animal
64 Society column word

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	8	9	■	10	11	12	13
14				■	15					■	16			
17				■	18					■	19			
20				21		■	22			23				
24					■	25						■	■	■
■	■	■	26		27		■	■	■	28		29	30	31
32	33	34		■	35		36	■	37					
38			■	■	39			40		■	■	41		
42			43	44		■	45			■	46			
47					■	■	■	48		49		■	■	■
■	■	■	50		51	52	53		■	54		55	56	57
58	59	60						■	61					
62				■	63			64		■	65			
66				■	67					■	68			
69				■	70					■	71			

	9				4		8	1
			6	3	1	7		
				8			6	
	8	3			5			2
		7		2		4		
5			1			6	9	
	1			9				
		9	5	4	7			
7	3		8				5	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

	8			9			5	
9	3				4	2	8	
6			5					
2	6		4					5
		3				9		
7					5		6	4
					3			2
	2	1	9				4	8
	7			5			9	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS: WWW.METRO.US/PUZZLES

Solution to Monday's crossword

B	A	J	A	■	■	■	E	R	R	■	B	O	L	E
A	L	O	H	A	■	P	A	C	E	■	E	X	A	M
N	A	V	A	L	■	E	R	A	T	■	A	I	D	E
S	W	I	T	C	H	E	S	■	R	E	D	D	E	N
■	■	■	■	O	O	P	■	S	A	L	■	E	N	D
S	L	E	E	V	E	■	M	O	C	H	A	■	■	■
H	A	L	V	E	■	F	O	R	T	I	F	I	E	D
O	I	S	E	■	B	L	O	T	S	■	R	O	U	E
W	R	A	N	G	L	E	R	S	■	M	O	U	R	N
■	■	■	T	R	I	E	S	■	L	A	S	S	O	S
E	D	O	■	A	N	T	■	H	A	N	■	■	■	■
D	A	M	A	S	K	■	N	I	G	G	L	I	N	G
G	I	N	S	■	E	K	E	D	■	L	O	G	I	N
A	R	I	A	■	R	O	B	E	■	E	L	E	N	A
R	Y	A	N	■	S	I	R	■	■	■	A	R	A	T

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destinations

Adirondacks adventure

Answer the call of the wild — not your phone — in the New York park

Since when did vacation become just another workweek, albeit with prettier scenery? It's increasingly difficult to truly "get away from it all," but New York's Adirondack Park still offers a real escape from your busy life back home. Outdoor adventure is the draw here; centering your trip around the High Peaks region, home to the village of Lake Placid, provides the opportunity to climb the state's tallest mountains, wade in world-class fly-fishing waters, and learn to paddleboard, all in the same weekend.

Hiking and climbing: The Adirondack Mountain Club's High Peaks Information Center (1002 Adirondack Loj Road, Lake Placid; 518-523-3441), is home to some of the area's most popular trail heads — from short hikes with big views (Mt. Jo) to classic slide climbs (Trap Dyke) to trips that culminate in standing atop New York State (the 5,344-foot peak of Mt. Marcy is N.Y.'s tallest).

Fishing: Renowned for its beauty and optimum conditions for a high trout population, the West Branch of the Ausable River is one of the most prized waterways among fly fishermen. The Hungry Trout Resort's fly shop (5239 Route 86, Wilmington; 800-766-9137) provides daily stream reports, gear rental and guide services.

Paddle sports: The Saint Regis Canoe Area, northwest of Lake Placid, covers 18,400 acres of waterways designated for canoe and kayak use. For rentals, guide services or just tips on trip planning, St. Regis Canoe Outfitters has locations in Saranac Lake (73 Dorsey St.; 518-891-1838) and at the St. Regis Wilderness (Floodwood Road at Long Pond Portage, Lake Clear; 518-891-8040).

For a less traditional afternoon on the water, stand-up paddleboarding offers an easy way to play on the park's more than 3,000 lakes and ponds. Eastern Mountain Sports (2453 Main St., Lake Placid; 518-523-2505) offers all the gear and instruction you need, right out the store's back door on Mirror Lake.

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Where to stay

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Seeking adventure doesn't require roughing it. Golden Arrow Lakeside Resort is a lovely, comfortably appointed hotel located directly on Mirror Lake — swimming and paddle sports are inherently part of the deal here. Need a little help planning your outdoors activity? The hotel has teamed with EMS to offer adventure packages that include guide services for a number of sports — plus a yummy boxed lunch of locally sourced food. (2559 Main St., Lake Placid; 518-523-3353. Regular room rates start at $159.)

More info

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Midseason Sox report

Red Sox are just a .500 team with 43-43 record at the All-Star break Starting pitching the biggest issue Veteran Ortiz has been one of few bright spots along with Middlebrooks

The 7-3 loss to the Yankees Sunday night marked the end of a disappointing first half of the season for the Red Sox. Their 43-43 record places them in a tie for last place in the AL East, trailing first place New York by 9.5 games.

The Red Sox have endured a number of injuries to star players including Jacoby Ellsbury, Carl Crawford, Andrew Bailey, Clay Buchholz and Josh Beckett, among others.

Despite the number of injuries to players expected to play major roles, manager Bobby Valentine still isn't satisfied with the .500 record.

"No, I am not happy about it at all," Valentine said prior to a game last weekend. "There are a lot of games that we have let slip away. … I wish we were better."

Boston will get its injured players back in the coming weeks, which increases its chances of making a run at the Wild Card and possibly the division. Time will tell on that front.

Here's a look at the best and most disappointing individual player performances during the first half of the season.

RYAN HANNABLE

Biggest flop

This could go to any of the veteran pitchers in the Red Sox rotation (Josh Beckett or Clay Buchholz), but Lester has been the most disappointing. The so-called "ace" of the Red Sox staff, has been anything but an ace this season, instead he's been rather mediocre.

The left-hander is 5-6 with a 4.49 ERA. He has only two wins in his last eight starts.

Although Buchholz is 8-2, he has not pitched as well as his record would show. His ERA of 5.53 is the highest among Red Sox starters.

Best player

Despite the drama off the field regarding his contract, the designated hitter has still put up impressive numbers on the field. The Red Sox lone All-Star representative is hitting .312 with 22 home runs.

The 36-year-old is second in both SLG and OPS in the American League. He is also sixth in home runs and ninth in RBIs.

GETTY IMAGES

The surprise

Most thought 2013 would be the year for the 23-year-old third baseman. But Middlebrooks made the most of his opportunity after being called up in early May. He recorded hits in eight of his first 10 games and is hitting .298 with 10 homers in 2012.

First-half funk

It appears the Red Sox know how bad the first half of the 2012 season has gone:

Jon Lester told WEEI: "It's obviously no good. It's uncharted waters for me. You just have to keep grinding it out. Can't give up, just have to keep working. All I can control is showing up every day, working hard, and I think things are going to turn around."

David Ortiz said: "It can't get no worse. I think our fans are fine … having so many injuries, and if you look at the team that broke camp … it's a whole totally different team."

3

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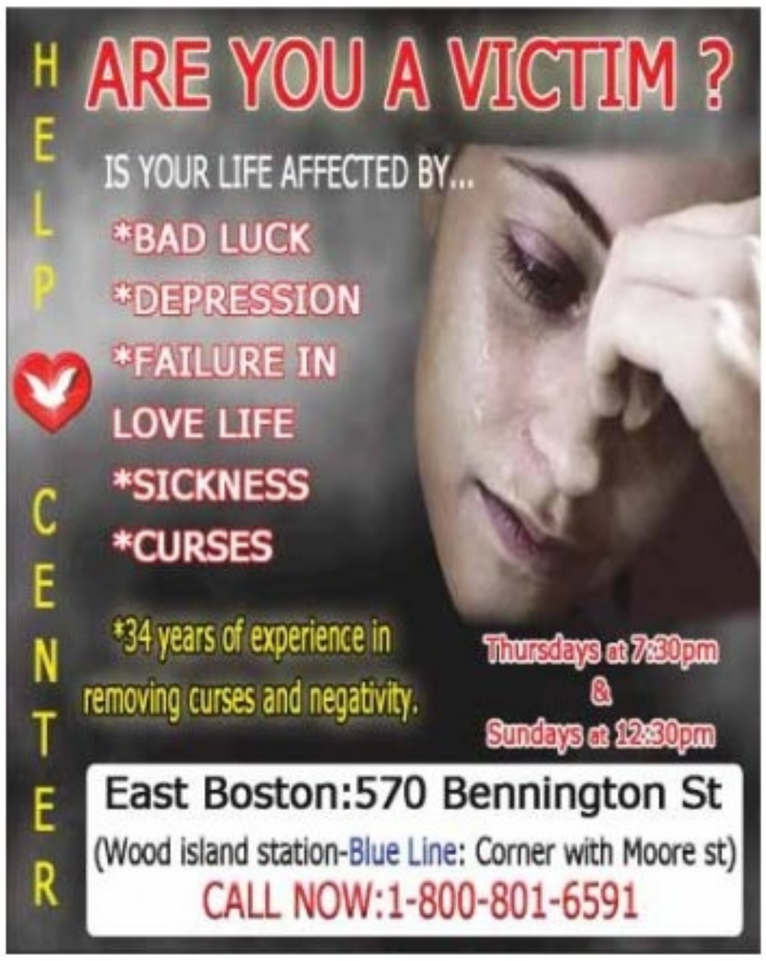

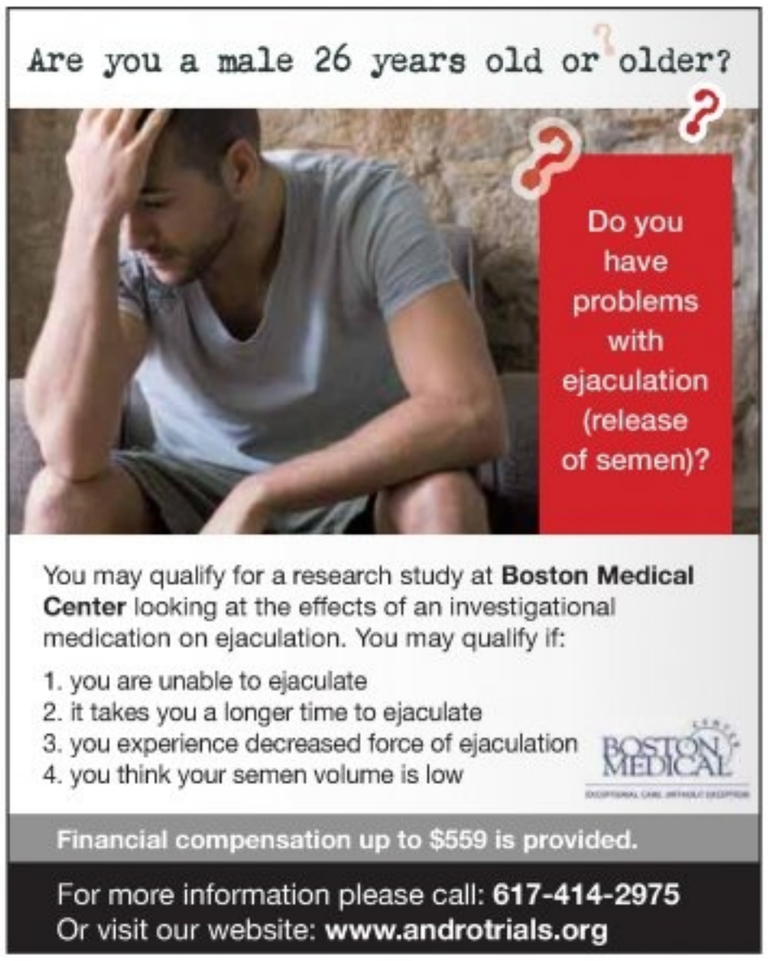
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▶ Daniel Nava, left, and Cody Ross, right, have developed a bond on and off the field.

Ross, Nava with a mutual respect

Growing up in the Bay Area of California, Daniel Nava always followed the San Francisco Giants, so there was no doubt that Nava paid attention to outfielder Cody Ross when the Giants claimed him off of waivers in 2010 and especially during the World Series that same year.

Little did Nava know that just two years later the two would have lockers next to one another in the Red Sox clubhouse, and Nava would be learning from the veteran while enjoying a terrific second season in the big leagues.

"I knew of him with the Giants," Nava said to Metro Boston. "I saw him for years playing, but I didn't know him personally. He is easy to talk to and has been very welcoming."

Nava, who was called up to the majors in early May, has hit .275 leading off and has done a fine job in the outfield filling in for the injured Carl Crawford.

Some of that success can be attributed to watching Ross, a fellow outfielder, play the game.

"Cody is a great guy," the 29-year-old Nava said. "He is a great teammate and is always willing to talk. He has offered me advice with anything, especially on the field. He plays the game the right way. He plays the game hard. That is something you always look to."

Ross is having a solid season himself, hitting .264 with 13 home runs and is on pace to best his career-high of 24 that he hit in 2009 with the Marlins. He is on that pace despite missing about a month with a fractured foot earlier in the year.

It hasn't been necessarily specific advice that Ross has given Nava, rather just being able to watch him on a day-to-day basis.

"Nothing specifically of what I should do," Nava said. "It is more of when you watch him play you are able to learn from that. He does a good job of letting his actions lead and speak for himself."

Ross, who is just two years older than Nava, does have seven more years of big league experience, has been impressed with what he's seen thus far this season.

"He has been absolutely incredible since coming up," Ross said. "He has done everything they have asked him to do and has stepped up in the lead off role. He's just been outstanding and a great listener too.

"I don't know where we would be without him right now."

RYAN HANNABLE
sports@metro.us

Humble Sox

- **Cody Ross** was drafted in the fourth round of the 1999 MLB Draft by the Detroit Tigers and has played for six teams since 2003.
- **Daniel Nava** went undrafted out of Santa Clara.

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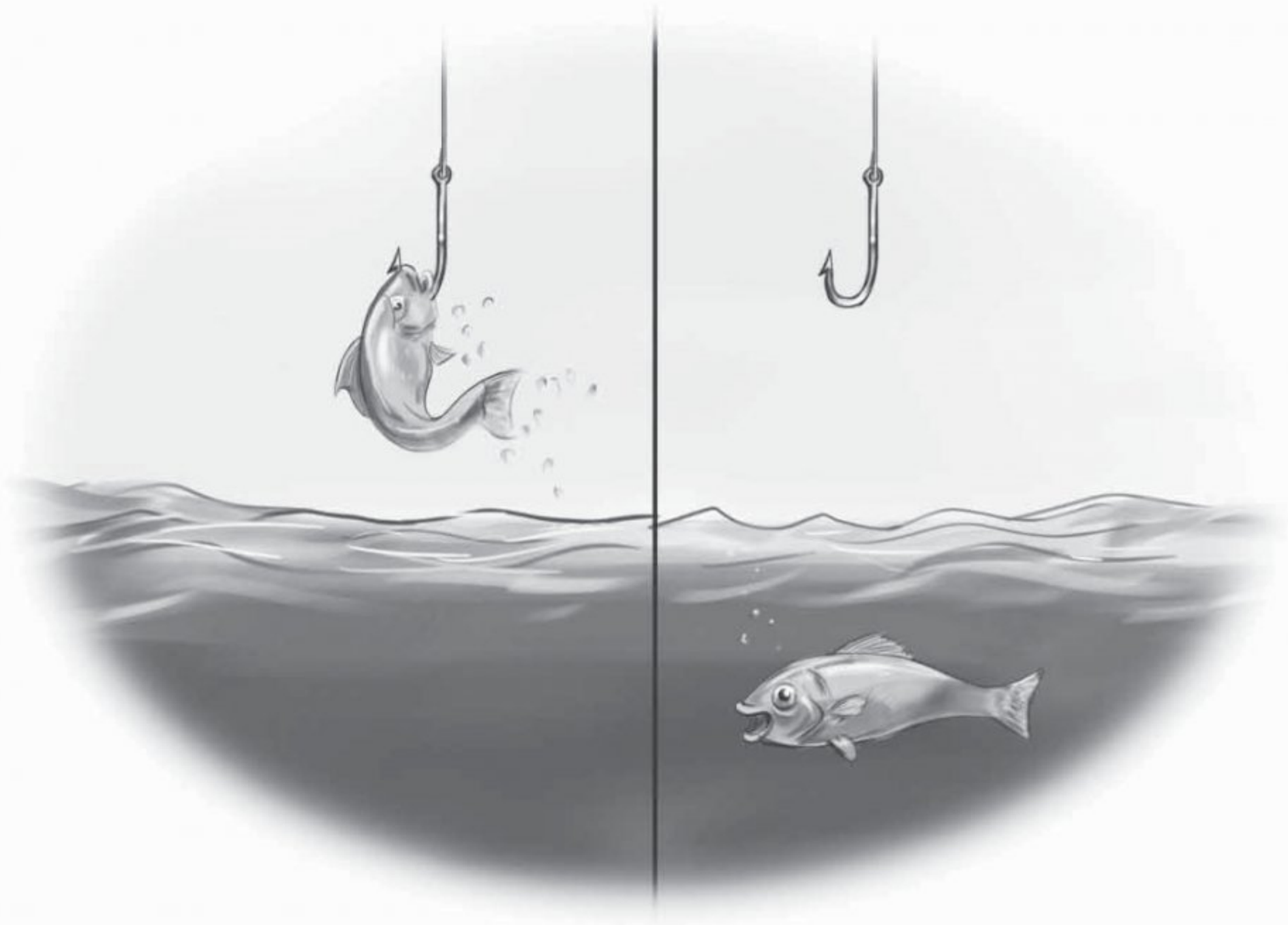

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